

## Flambeau River Papers 2017 Sustainability Report

Flambeau River Papers continues to be guided by policies that ensure continuous improvement and that resources are used wisely. Aggressive goals continue to be set to assure minimal environmental impacts. A summary of the mill's environmental status as well as the other sustainable initiatives the mill is working on follows.

### Residuals

A record low year for residual production was achieved in 2017. The majority of these residuals was available to farmers supplying the nitrogen and other nutrients their fields need with less than 0.5% having to be landfilled because of weather conditions. The one-time-use turn-up tape used to start a roll of paper is still available to make baskets or other crafts. Please call (715) 762-5375 or stop by the mill's security entrance to inquire about receiving some of the material.

### Water

Work continues on minimizing water use. The target set for reduced water use was achieved in 2017. Additional optimizing will be completed in 2018 with the goal of keeping the water reductions in place under the new production strategy the mill is operating under.

### Air

A regularly scheduled DNR inspection occurred in November. The mill was found to be in compliance with only two requested additions to procedures required as follow-up. The annually required boiler stack test for Boiler MACT showed compliance with all operating requirements.

### Environmental Management System

Although the mill has decided to no longer keep ISO 14001 certification, the environmental management system will not be changing. 100% compliance continues to be the mill's main objective for 2018. Energy conservation and the mill's storm water impact will be focused on for 2018.

### Greenhouse and other Community Involvement

Donations to the city's food pantry in 2017 from the Flambeau River Community Growing Center, the greenhouse that is located on mill property, were as follows:

- tomatoes 215 pounds
- peppers – 30 pounds
- onions/garlic – 25 pounds
- cabbage – 3 pounds
- beans – 3 pounds

In addition to providing raised beds for use by the community, the site continues to host a variety of events in 2017 including the ones shown below.



Events planned for 2018 include a master gardener class, a bee workshop, a mushroom workshop, pruning classes, square foot gardening, composting, growing herbs in a container, and how to interpret a soil test. The mill continues to be a part of the local chamber and to have a representative on the charter school board.

### 2018 and Beyond

The mill's operating strategy was changed in early 2018 when the decision was made to cease operation of our largest paper machine and to run our pulp mill at 75% capacity. This change had a large impact on our work force with the loss of 80 jobs; however, the operating strategy going forward will sustain the 200 remaining jobs at the mill. The mill is working through the changes involved with moving veteran papermakers to different machines and with the loss of many good workers.

Flambeau River Papers managed the challenges of 2017. The mill's commitment to being a responsible environmental and energy steward hasn't changed. If you have questions or concerns about our environmental performance please contact us during office hours at (715)762-5375 or by calling our 24-hour community concerns hotline at (715)762-5239. Please visit **flambeauriverpapers.com** to see the mill's environmental policy and for more information about the mill.